

House Study Bill 49 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AFFAIRS BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON CHAMBERS)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to veterans records by requiring county
2 recorders to provide copies of certain records to the
3 department of veterans affairs and the county commission of
4 veteran affairs and by requiring the department of veterans
5 affairs to provide copies of certain discharge documents to
6 the appropriate county commission of veteran affairs.
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 35A.5, Code 2011, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 14A. a. Provide a copy of the certificate
4 of release or discharge from active duty to the county
5 commission of veteran affairs for the county where the released
6 or discharged individual resides within thirty days of
7 receiving the certificate of release or discharge from active
8 duty from the applicable branch of service.

9 b. A certificate of release or discharge from active duty
10 that is received by the department shall be considered a
11 confidential record for purposes of chapter 22 and shall only
12 be made available pursuant to paragraph "a", unless otherwise
13 authorized by law in connection with the department's official
14 duties. The county commission of veteran affairs and its
15 employees or agents shall be subject to the same state and
16 federal confidentiality restrictions and requirements that are
17 imposed on the department.

18 Sec. 2. Section 331.608, subsection 6, paragraph e, Code
19 2011, is amended to read as follows:

20 e. When otherwise required by a department or agency of the
21 federal or state government or a political subdivision. The
22 recorder shall make these records available to the department
23 of veterans affairs and the county commission of veteran
24 affairs. For records recorded after January 1, 2001, the
25 recorder shall provide a copy of each such record to the county
26 commission of veteran affairs and to the department of veterans
27 affairs. Copies of records recorded after January 1, 2001, and
28 before the effective date of this Act shall be provided not
29 later than January 1, 2012. For records recorded on or after
30 the effective date of this Act, such copies shall be provided
31 within thirty days of recording. The department of veterans
32 affairs and its employees and the county commission of veteran
33 affairs and its employees shall be subject to the same state
34 and federal confidentiality restrictions and requirements that
35 are imposed on the recorder.

EXPLANATION

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2 This bill relates to information sharing between the
3 department of veterans affairs and county commissions of
4 veteran affairs.

5 The bill requires that the department of veterans affairs
6 provide the appropriate county commission of veteran affairs
7 with a copy of the certificate of release or discharge from
8 active duty of any individual residing in that county. The
9 bill further requires that county commissions keep these
10 records confidential unless otherwise provided by law and
11 requires that county commission employees be subject to the
12 state and federal confidentiality restrictions imposed on the
13 department.

14 The bill also requires that the county recorder make certain
15 records available to the department and the county commission.
16 The bill requires that the recorder provide a copy of certain
17 records recorded after January 1, 2001, to the department and
18 to the county commission. The bill requires that records
19 recorded after January 1, 2001, and before the effective date
20 of the bill be provided by the recorder to the department and
21 the county commission by January 1, 2012. The bill further
22 requires that the recorder provide a copy of all such records
23 recorded after the effective date of the bill to the department
24 and the county commission within 30 days of recording.